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March 1984

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STATE OF MONTANA
DIVISION OF FORENSIC SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
275 West Front Street, Missoula, MT 59802 (406) 728-4970

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MARCH 1984

FORENSIC SCHOOLS

March 16-17	Miles City - Custer County Courthouse Call Tony Harbaugh at 232-2237 for further information. Registration $5.00
March 18-22	Orlando, Florida - FORENSIC EVIDENCE Course for $360.00
April 20	Bozeman - FORENSIC DENTISTRY Registration deadline - March 20 Fee - $25.00
April 30 - May 4	Washington D.C. - ADVANCED FORENSIC PATHOLOGY Pathologists only Fee - $125.00
May 7-11	Cheyenne, Wyoming - HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION Course Fee - $275.00
May 14-18	St. Louis, Missouri - DEATH INVESTIGATION Fee - $175.00

ON CALL SCHEDULE - MONTANA STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER

MARCH 1984

275 W. Front Street
Missoula, Montana 59802

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 JOHN PFAFF
4 JOHN PFAFF	5 JOHN PFAFF	6 JOHN PFAFF	7 JOHN PFAFF	8 JOHN PFAFF	9 JOHN PFAFF	10 RON RIVERS
11 RON RIVERS	12	13	14	15	16	17 KEN MUELLER
18 KEN MUELLER	19	20	21	22	23	24 RON RIVERS
25 RON RIVERS	26	27	28	29	30	31 JOHN PFAFF

Telephone Numbers: State Office - 728-4970
WATS Line - 243-5796

Home Phone: Dr. Ron Rivers- 728-2033 (Home)
(week nights call unless otherwise indicated)

Dr. John Pfaff - Great Falls
Hospital - 727-3333
Home - 727-3905

Dr. Ken Mueller- Billings
Hospital - 657-7000
Home - 248-3024

ACUTE EPIGLOTTITIS
MARCH 1984
R.L. Rivers, M.D.

This is a true story that occurred in Liberty County last January.

A two year, eleven month old boy was found dead at home in the early morning about ten miles from Chester. He had developed a fever the night before, had vomited, and was last seen alive at 3:30 a.m.

The Liberty County Sheriff/Coroner, Richard Burrows, promptly requested an autopsy when notified by the parents. That afternoon Dr. John Pfaff found acute epiglottis in the neck of the child. This tragic disease kills very quickly by swelling the windpipe closed. It is caused by a germ called Hemophilus.

Coroner Burrows was notified of this condition and the fact that it is contagious. He called the family immediately as he knew there was another boy sick in the family. The family took the child to a physician who then hospitalized the child. He was found to have meningitis caused by the same germ, Hemophilus! After treatment was administered, the boy started to recover. Dick Burrow's autopsy and attention to the case investigation saved the brother from severe brain damage or even death!

There are many county commissioners, county attorneys and coroners who wouldn't have seen the need for examination by the coroner in such cases. Their communities and families suffer the consequenses.

Congratulations to Sheriff/Coroner Dick Burrows for the great job!